



**Executive Board of the  
United Nations Entity  
for Gender Equality and the  
Empowerment of Women**

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**Second regular session of 2014  
15 and 16 September 2014  
Item 1 of the provisional agenda  
Organizational matters**

**Report on the annual session of 2014, 17 to 19 June 2014**

**I. Organizational matters**

1. The annual session of 2014 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) was held at United Nations Headquarters, New York, from 17 to 19 June 2014.
2. The Executive Board elected Kadra Ahmed Hassan (Djibouti) to the position of Vice-President, representing African States.
3. The Executive Board adopted the annotated provisional agenda and workplan for the annual session (UNW/2014/L.3) and approved the report on its first regular session of 2014, held on 20 January 2014 (UNW/2014/1). The Executive Board also approved the proposed provisional agenda and workplan for the second regular session of 2014, to be held on 15 and 16 September.
4. The Executive Board adopted three decisions (2014/2, 2014/3 and 2014/4) as contained in annex I to the present report.

**II. Opening statements**

5. The President of the Executive Board, Gonzalo Koncke (Uruguay), in his opening remarks, gave a broad overview of the agenda items before the Board. He stated that gender inequality is one of the gravest forms of discrimination in all countries, cultures and societies and encouraged Member States to support the Entity with a view to ensuring that UN-Women would attain its financial objectives for 2014. Highlighting that the annual session was taking place during a global campaign of reviewing and preparing for the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing Platform for Action), he called for the full engagement of Member States in the process.



6. In her opening remarks, the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of UN-Women, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, pointed out that with a global presence in 89 countries and provision of support to 96 countries, UN-Women is well equipped and positioned to reach out to all sectors. She cited various challenges, such as the underrepresentation of women in leadership and decision-making, the high percentages of women among the illiterate and the poor and the widespread pandemic of violence against women across the world. She stated that UN-Women is seizing the opportunity of the 2015 countdown to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and the finalization of the post-2015 development agenda and the review and appraisal process concerning the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, to position women and girls at the heart of the global agenda. Highlighting preparations towards upcoming national and international events in relation to the review and commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Head of the Entity called for the continued collaboration of Executive Board members.

7. With regard to the fifty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Head of the Entity thanked Member States, entities of the United Nations system, civil society organizations, and the Assistant Secretary-General/Deputy Executive Director for Intergovernmental Support and Strategic Partnerships and her team, for the long hours that were put into the process, leading to a successful outcome.

8. The Head of the Entity gave examples of achievements during the year 2013, as outlined in her report on progress made in implementing the strategic plan 2011-2013 and on operational activities in 2013 (UNW/2014/2), noting advances made in areas such as United Nations system coordination and women's leadership and participation in peace and security with respect to Security Council resolution 2122 (2013), adopted in October 2013, and the launch of a guidance note on reparations for conflict-related sexual violence. She announced the recent launch by UN-Women of its Private Sector Leadership Advisory Council, with whom the Entity planned to partner on programmes in relation to job creation, poverty alleviation, ending violence against women and fundraising.

9. On the topic of evaluation, the Head of the Entity noted areas requiring some improvement and pledged her personal commitment to ensuring that the independent Evaluation Office is fully funded. She expressed her appreciation for the work of the independent Evaluation Office, the Evaluation Advisory Committee and members of the Executive Board for their constructive engagement with the Entity.

10. The Head of the Entity underscored that resource mobilization remained a major challenge, stating that "It is time to end the historic underinvestment in women." Resource mobilization was declared a corporate priority which, she stressed, was a joint responsibility of all Member States. Thanking various Member States for their continued support and increased funding, she expressed the hope that more countries would join the group of donors, that private sector contributors would substantially increase their contributions to the Entity and that the funding base would become more stable and predictable.

11. In response to the opening statements, there was resounding and unanimous commendation from the floor of results achieved, noting that, in the year 2013, UN-Women had accomplished its highest rate of programme delivery since the

Entity's establishment. Many speakers specifically applauded the achievements of the Entity in the execution of its normative, coordination and operational roles. Member States congratulated the Head of the Entity for her leadership and her team for its dedication. Some expressed appreciation for the efforts made to streamline reporting on the implementation on the strategic plan with the report on operational activities, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/5. Delegations congratulated the Entity for the high quality of that report and encouraged UN-Women to continue to develop reporting in this manner.

12. Reflecting on progress made in the implementation of the strategic plan and looking forward, several delegations welcomed the contribution of UN-Women to the Commission on the Status of Women; the efforts of the Entity towards increasing emphasis on gender equality in other intergovernmental forums; its cooperation with the Human Rights Council and the Security Council, notably in developing the normative framework on women, peace and security; and its contribution to the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the preparatory work towards the commemoration of its twentieth anniversary.

13. A delegation commended UN-Women for its efforts in supporting the adoption, by the General Assembly, of the Arms Trade Treaty (General Assembly resolution 67/234 B), which expressly recognizes that the illicit trade of arms could lead to gender-based violence or violence against women and children. In another statement, a delegation called for the Entity to continue its efforts aimed at ensuring the meaningful participation of women in security system reform and the engagement of women's groups in formal peace processes, including in the design and implementation of projects for conflict prevention and conflict resolution.

14. While commending UN-Women for its work in promoting gender mainstreaming in the post-2015 development agenda, as well as for its role in advocacy and in securing widespread consensus in favour of a stand-alone goal on gender equality, some delegations cautioned that combined efforts needed to be maintained to ensure that gender equality would be truly mainstreamed throughout the framework.

15. A delegation expressed the opinion that gender-sensitive data and indicators are central prerequisites for monitoring progress in promoting gender equality and women's rights. In addition, the delegation noted, it was important that the agreed set of indicators would be adequately considered in the discussions on gender-sensitive targets and indicators for a new development framework. The continuous efforts of UN-Women to collect, analyse and disseminate gender-sensitive data were welcomed. One delegation pledged to support the Entity in developing approaches to test and implement the set of gender indicators at the country level.

16. Regarding the programmatic role of UN-Women, delegations acknowledged with appreciation the results achieved across all five focus areas, noting that most of the targets were met or exceeded.

17. Some speakers emphasized the need for sustained focus on the most vulnerable groups, such as indigenous women. Other delegations recognized the increased importance the Entity attributes to South-South and triangular cooperation, including the replication of best practices and successful initiatives.

18. Some delegations stressed the importance of education for the empowerment of girls. A delegation agreed with the Entity's approach of not explicitly elaborating on the area of education, within the strategic plan, with a view to avoiding duplication of effort with other entities. It was however emphasized that education is the most powerful tool for enhancing the economic independence of women and promoting their empowerment. Another speaker recommended the cooperation of UN-Women with partners specialized in the field of education, such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Bank and the Global Partnership for Education. A delegation underlined the importance of combating gender stereotypes and enhancing awareness-raising campaigns for women and girls themselves, among other activities. A speaker reiterated the need for UN-Women to focus on enhancing the participation of women from developing countries in economic development and poverty eradication efforts. UN-Women country offices were encouraged to consult closely with host countries in order to set priorities in alignment with national development plans.

19. Noting the unique mandate of UN-Women in the area of United Nations system coordination and significant results achieved across almost all indicators of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, delegations underscored the need for agencies, funds and programmes to redouble their efforts and investment in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. Some delegations urged UN-Women to ensure that regional and country representatives were provided the organizational status and position that would equip them with the authority to engage in dialogue with national authorities and enable them to effectively function on an equal footing within the United Nations system.

20. While commending UN-Women for its achievements in spite of its financial constraints, Member States called on the Entity to widen its donor base, especially given the Entity's dependency on a few donors. Some delegations urged others to contribute to the Entity at a level commensurate with their political commitment and the ambitious mandate that they had collectively entrusted to UN-Women.

21. A delegation urged the Entity to continue developing partnerships with national committees for UN-Women, stressing that the committees have the potential to be a valuable fundraising resource and link to the private sector and civil society.

22. The Head of UN-Women and the Deputy Executive Directors/Assistant Secretaries-General thanked Member States for their constructive comments, advice and words of support. Regarding the operational response, the panel noted the comments on the need for enhanced focus on the most vulnerable women. Replies echoed the importance of education, referred to closer collaboration with UNESCO to address gender stereotypes and other issues within educational systems, and highlighted the usefulness of information and communications technology to support women's rights. The panel agreed that collaboration with the Security Council was important, stressed the crucial role of resource mobilization in addressing the underfunding of UN-Women and encouraged all Member States to join the endeavours for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women.

### III. Evaluation

23. The Chief of Evaluation of UN-Women presented the joint evaluation of joint programmes on gender equality in the United Nations system.<sup>1</sup> He stated that the evaluation was an opportunity to bring together for the first time the evaluation offices of UN-Women, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and the evaluation team of the Millennium Development Goals Fund, in partnership with the governments of Spain and Norway, to evaluate joint gender programmes in the United Nations system at the country level. Also for the first time, management of the four United Nations entities joined forces to develop and commit to implementing a joint management response. The respective directors of the evaluation offices also came together to present key findings and recommendations at a joint informal meeting of the relevant Executive Boards prior to the annual session of the Executive Board of UN-Women.

24. The Chief of the Evaluation Office presented some of the key findings and conclusions. It was recommended that joint gender programmes be a strategic choice, rather than a default option. A crucial question concerned whether the joint gender programme modality was the best fit for a particular context or whether other modalities and forms of cooperation, which may be no less collaborative in nature, would be more appropriate in specific situations and at particular times. Another consideration was in relation to whether improving the analytic base and inclusiveness in the design process would enhance the relevance of joint gender programmes. In addition, mechanisms for coherence needed to be put in place and barriers to efficiency (mostly of a systemic nature) needed to be addressed, while ownership and accountability needed to be strengthened.

25. The evaluation outlined four overarching recommendations. The first called upon United Nations entities to ensure a clear strategic rationale for joint gender programmes and to ground designs in development effectiveness at the country level; the second was addressed to host governments, and called for those governments to ensure full ownership of, and accountability for joint gender programmes; the third was addressed to donor countries, and called for those countries to accompany demands for rigour and results with supportive guidance and a partnership-oriented approach; and the fourth requested the United Nations Development Group to provide more specific guidance on joint gender programmes while advocating for systemic change.

26. Following the presentation by the Chief of Evaluation, the Assistant Secretary-General/Deputy Executive Director for Policy and Programme presented the joint management response to the joint evaluation of joint programmes on gender equality in the United Nations system.

27. Member States commended the joint evaluation for its comprehensiveness and transparency. They recognized that UN-Women and the other entities, in their management response, had elaborated on concrete actions to follow up on the recommendations of the evaluation and viewed the recommendations as useful for improving the quality and inclusiveness of the design phase and for the development

<sup>1</sup> The documents presented for the discussion on evaluation and on the joint field visit were circulated as conference room papers and are available on the website of UN-Women, at [www.unwomen.org/10/executive-board/documents/annual-session-2014](http://www.unwomen.org/10/executive-board/documents/annual-session-2014).

of a shared approach to articulate the different roles of the entities involved. Delegations cautioned that these roles, however, may also vary in accordance with the circumstances. Such joint exercises may not be the appropriate approach in each and every context and therefore should be applied accordingly.

28. A delegation stated that given the central role of UN-Women in promoting system-wide accountability on gender equality and the empowerment of women, it was important that the Evaluation Office strive to expand and multiply its impact through joint evaluation and system-wide coordination on evaluation. The speaker welcomed the quest of the Evaluation Office for continuous and systematic capacity development on monitoring and evaluation, especially at the decentralized level.

29. Speakers underscored the need to advance the harmonization of procedures for joint programming so as not to hinder their efficiency. A delegation stated that this evaluation provided an excellent basis for future planning and suggested that the findings be used to develop a guidance note for the development not only of joint programmes on gender equality, but of joint programmes in general.

30. The Chief of Evaluation presented the report on the evaluation function of the Entity (UNW/2014/3) and the corporate evaluation plan, 2014-2017. He explained that while UN-Women already had strong governance of the evaluation function, in December 2013 a UN-Women Evaluation Committee was established to further strengthen the independence, credibility and utility of the evaluation function. The Members of the Committee are respected leaders of the global evaluation community, representing different geographical areas and institutional backgrounds. In its first meeting, the Committee assessed the progress made so far and commended the Evaluation Office for its strategic planning work. In addition, it also revised the evaluation strategic plan, 2014-2017 and the corporate evaluation plan, 2014-2017, recommending their approval.

31. The large majority of evaluations in UN-Women are managed by decentralized offices, reflecting the decentralized nature of the Entity. While this was useful in generating evidence more relevant to the national context, and therefore more likely to be used by local and national policymakers, it also posed a challenge in ensuring that evaluations met internationally agreed norms and standards. In an effort to address the challenge, the Evaluation Office established systems and mechanisms in 2013 to enhance the decentralized evaluation function.

32. While the need for improvements in certain areas was noted, it was concluded that UN-Women had a strong evaluation function as demonstrated by its key performance indicators. The Chief of Evaluation stated that the Evaluation Office had strategically contributed to strengthening gender-responsive capacities within the United Nations system, as well as at the national level. In order to strengthen the UN-Women evaluation function even further, in addition to the establishment of the UN-Women Evaluation Committee, a peer review by the United Nations Evaluation Group and external assessments by the Joint Inspection Unit and Office of Internal Oversight Services would be carried out in 2014 and their findings reported in 2015.

33. Member States welcomed the positive results of the evaluation function and commended the Evaluation Office on the systematic, flexible and frank approach to reporting. Some delegations expressed the opinion that a management response in this regard may not be particularly necessary at this time, however, it would be useful in future years for management to provide some feedback. It was also

proposed that future reports contain an introductory section focusing on overarching lessons and challenges for the Entity. Speakers mentioned that the gender equality evaluation portal of lessons learned and good practices would be helpful and further strengthen the role of UN-Women. The Chief of Evaluation confirmed that the agenda item on evaluation at the second regular session of 2014 of the Executive Board would include a meta-analysis of all evaluations.

#### IV. Pledging event

34. Opening the pledging event, the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director stated that for the financial year 2013, UN-Women had received \$275 million in total voluntary contributions, an increase of 22 per cent from 2012. She called on Member States to build on the momentum and continue to make strides towards sufficient funding and an adequate resource base, in order for UN-Women to be able to make more concrete improvements in the lives of women on the ground, where it matters most.

35. During the pledging event, 44 Member States pledged an approximate total amount of \$229 million in core and non-core resources. Pledges included 39 multi-year commitments to the core and non-core resources of UN-Women, nine increases on commitments from previous years (from Australia, Chile, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Japan, Suriname, Switzerland and Viet Nam) and three first-time pledges (from Croatia, Jordan and Papua New Guinea). For the year 2014, Member States pledged \$136 million for core resources and \$53 million for non-core resources. An outline of all pledges made at the session is contained in annex II to the present report.

36. Member States referred to UN-Women as a trusted partner and commended the Entity for the impressive progress and significant achievements over the past year. Both donor and programme countries reiterated their firm commitment to strengthen their support to UN-Women and made further commitments to strive for an upward trend in funding in order to ensure adequate and sustainable funding for the Entity in the coming years.

#### V. Special briefing: operational response at the country level

37. The representative of UN-Women in Papua New Guinea and the Director of the Programme Division of UN-Women presented an overview of the "Safe Cities" programme in Port Moresby, funded by Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Spain, with core funding from UN-Women and a private enterprise that provides much of its support on a pro-bono basis. As part of the global "Safe Cities" initiative, a flagship initiative with the overarching aim of improving the quality of life of women and girls, some of the objectives of the programme include providing women and girls with a greater sense of safety; increasing their economic empowerment, freedom of movement and use of public spaces; improving the standard of hygiene; and reducing the rate of HIV infections.

38. The Permanent Representative of Papua New Guinea to the United Nations led the way in thanking UN-Women for its work in his country. His appreciation for the work of the Entity was echoed by other delegations.

## VI. Audit

39. The Director of the Office of Audit and Investigations of UNDP presented the report of the UN-Women Audit Unit on internal audit and investigation activities for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013 (UNW/2014/4).

40. The audit reports for seven field-based offices contained an aggregate of 70 recommendations. He mentioned that management should continue to focus on addressing those areas identified as high risk in the audits. The main high priority recommendations were related to:

(a) Corporate recommendations: the lack of risk management policies and procedures, the lack of policies and procedures for segregation of activities to various offices and the lack of host country agreements;

(b) Programme management: deficiencies in project design, planning and implementation, long-outstanding advances and inadequate oversight over programme activities;

(c) Partnership and resource mobilization: delays in strategizing and mobilizing funds;

(d) Project management: inadequate project monitoring and oversight and the lack of a monitoring framework/plan;

(e) Finance: inadequate financial management, improper expense allocations and inadequate filing of supporting documents;

(f) Procurement: weaknesses in procurement processes and contract management;

(g) Asset management: inadequate oversight and management of assets.

41. The UN-Women Legal Framework for Addressing Non-Compliance with United Nations Standards of Conduct was promulgated in January 2013, establishing the reporting and investigation processes within UN-Women. The number of reported cases increased, from 2 in 2012 to 18 in 2013, relating, inter alia, to allegations of abuse of authority, misuse of UN-Women resources and procurement fraud.

42. The overall conclusion drawn according to the results of the internal audits indicated that the internal controls, governance and risk management processes audited were generally established and functioning but needed improvement. Recommendations made to management were being implemented and this should further strengthen the ability of UN-Women to deliver on its mandate.

43. The second annual report of the Audit Advisory Committee in relation to UN-Women was presented (UNW/2014/4/Add.1). The Committee expressed its support for the continued strengthening of internal control and accountability processes at UN-Women. Following the presentations on audit matters, the Deputy Director and Chief of Operations of the Division of Management and Administration briefed the Executive Board on the related management response.

44. Member States who took the floor expressed appreciation for the reports, underlining their clarity and accessibility. They commended the systematic way in which the issues were raised and addressed. One delegation requested that the

annual reports of the Board of Auditors be presented to the Executive Board of UN-Women. Other speakers were of the opinion that the Entity should seek alternative options for internal audit services, outside of UNDP. The midterm review of the strategic plan was suggested as an appropriate time to consider this option. A delegation was interested in having future reports provide an analysis on how the work of the Entity was implemented within the various areas of its universal mandate.

45. Responding to comments from the floor regarding further expansion and considerations with respect to UN-Women having its own internal audit unit, the panel referred to the resources required and reassured Member States that UN-Women would continue its dialogue with Member States to ascertain the best systematic formulation of its audit structure. UN-Women reaffirmed its robust accountability for all audit and investigation matters.

## **VII. Report on the joint field visit of the Executive Boards**

46. The President of the Executive Board reported on the 2014 joint field visit, during which he acted as team leader, to Panama and El Salvador, which comprised the Executive Boards of UNDP, UNFPA, the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), UNICEF, UN-Women and the World Food Programme (WFP) and was held from 23 March to 1 April 2014. The visit was the first of its kind to Latin America in over 10 years.

47. As outlined in the report on the joint field visit, the purpose was to enhance the understanding of the members of the Executive Boards of the role of the United Nations development system in general and that of the specific organizations concerned in the region. The delegation was briefed on the functions of the United Nations regional team, based in Panama, in supporting the United Nations country teams and national governments in the region. It was noted that El Salvador was the second country in the region to implement the "Delivering as one" modality.

48. In presenting the report on the visit, the team leader expressed the gratitude of the delegation to the secretariat of UN-Women for coordinating the 2014 joint field visit, to the country team of El Salvador and the regional team in Panama, and to the regional teams of UNICEF and the United Nations Development Group for organizing the visit in a very professional and effective manner, for their warm welcome and for the valuable insights into their work. The delegation expressed gratitude to all stakeholders at the community level who had invested great effort and time to host the delegation and made the visit a resounding success.

49. The Secretary of Social Inclusion of El Salvador, Vanda Pignato, presented one of the projects visited by the delegation, the "Ciudad Mujer" centres. The model aims to provide women with multiple services, drawing on existing services, in the same location, and to reduce the cost to the beneficiary when using public services that are normally spread out and often far from each other. This integrated approach allows Ciudad Mujer centres to provide a range of services that can be customized to the women making use of the centres. Areas of focus include addressing gender-based violence; promoting economic empowerment; education and training; providing legal advice; and assisting women with sexual and reproductive health and childcare.

50. Delegations thanked the team for its efforts in preparing the report on the joint field visit, which provided recommendations and findings that should serve to inform the future work of the participating entities.

51. Furthermore, delegations expressed their appreciation for the presence of the Secretary of Social Inclusion of El Salvador at the meeting and hoped that the best practices and exemplary successes from "Ciudad Mujer" could be shared beyond the UN-Women Executive Board and replicated in many countries around the world.

## **VIII. Other matters**

### **Working methods**

52. A delegation made proposals with a view to improving the working methods of the Executive Board, as follows:

(a) Adequate time should be allocated to allow for the full participation of Member States in the negotiation of draft decisions prior to their formal adoption;

(b) Updated copies of draft decisions should be made available to Member States in both electronic and hard copies throughout the negotiation process;

(c) A limited quantity of official documentation, in hard copy, should be made available in the conference room for reference purposes in the official languages of the United Nations, even though the sessions of the Executive Board are Papersmart.

## Annex I

**Decisions adopted at the annual session of 2014****2014/2****Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director on progress made on the strategic plan, 2011-2013, including operational activities in 2013***The Executive Board,*

1. *Takes note with appreciation of the report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director on the progress made on the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women strategic plan, 2011-2013, including operational activities in 2013;<sup>a</sup>*
2. *Welcomes the achievements made in the implementation of the first UN-Women strategic plan, 2011-2013, as described in the report;*
3. *Commends UN-Women for the stronger results focus in the report, and further encourages UN-Women to continue to improve its results reporting, including reflections on lessons learned in the first progress report on the implementation of the strategic plan, 2014-2017, to be presented at the annual session of 2015;*
4. *Takes note of the efforts by UN-Women to include the mandates of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review on operational activities for development of the United Nations system<sup>b</sup> in its work;*
5. *Requests UN-Women to present to the Executive Board, at an informal meeting during the second regular session of 2014, an outline of the format of, and the information that will be provided in, the annual report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director;*
6. *Takes note with concern of the ongoing funding gap and urges all countries in a position to do so to increase their voluntary contributions, especially to core resources, and requests UN-Women to further improve its efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability to ensure full implementation of the strategic plan, 2014-2017;<sup>c</sup>*
7. *Decides to transmit the report to the Economic and Social Council.*

**2014/3****Report on the evaluation function, 2013***The Executive Board,*

1. *Takes note of the report on the evaluation function of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, 2013,<sup>d</sup> and the programme of work for 2014 of the independent Evaluation Office;<sup>e</sup>*

<sup>a</sup> UNW/2014/2.<sup>b</sup> General Assembly resolution 67/226.<sup>c</sup> UNW/2013/6.<sup>d</sup> UNW/2014/3.<sup>e</sup> Ibid., sect. V.

2. *Welcomes* the efforts made by UN-Women and the progress achieved in systematic strengthening of the evaluation function;

3. *Also welcomes* the progress of UN-Women in leading system-wide gender evaluation efforts and the active involvement of the Entity in joint evaluations, and requests UN-Women to continue to present to the Executive Board joint evaluation reports and the management response to joint evaluations;

4. *Requests* UN-Women to continue to strengthen its evaluation capacities and to allocate adequate human and financial resources to the Evaluation Office and the overall evaluation function;

5. *Emphasizes* that programme countries should have greater ownership and leadership in the evaluation of all forms of assistance, and requests UN-Women, in cooperation with other United Nations system organizations, to continue its efforts to facilitate the building of national evaluation capacities, where applicable;

6. *Commends* the efforts of UN-Women in fostering innovative partnerships for national evaluation capacity development;

7. *Requests* UN-Women to present a separate budget line for evaluation activities in the integrated budget for the biennium 2016-2017, to be considered by the Executive Board at its second regular session of 2015;

8. *Also requests* UN-Women to enhance the use of management response to evaluations and lessons learned from evaluations;

9. *Requests* the independent Evaluation Office to continue to pursue United Nations system-wide gender evaluation efforts, including through innovative partnerships.

#### 2014/4

#### Report on internal audit and investigation activities for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013

*The Executive Board,*

1. *Takes note* of the report on internal audit and investigation activities for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013;<sup>f</sup>

2. *Expresses* its continuing support for the audit and investigation functions provided by the Office of Audit and Investigations;<sup>g</sup>

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Audit Advisory Committee and the management response thereto;<sup>h</sup>

4. *Notes with appreciation* UN-Women efforts to implement the outstanding recommendations from previous reports and encourages UN-Women management to achieve the timely, full, complete and sustained implementation of all outstanding and new audit recommendations;

<sup>f</sup> UNW/2014/4.

<sup>g</sup> Of the United Nations Development Programme.

<sup>h</sup> UNW/2014/4/Add.1.

5. *Encourages* UN-Women to complement its regional architecture and organizational decentralization with effective oversight controls throughout the organization and with the comprehensive training necessary to fulfil management oversight and risk management responsibilities, as appropriate;

6. *Requests* UN-Women to present a separate budget line for internal audit and investigation activities in the integrated budget for the biennium 2016-2017, to be considered by the Executive Board at its second regular session of 2015;

7. *Also requests* UN-Women to present to the Executive Board, at its second regular sessions, the annual report of the Board of Auditors;

8. *Further requests* UN-Women to incorporate in future reports information on the number, nature and outcomes of investigation cases conducted by the Office of Audit and Investigations.

## Annex II

## Pledges received at the annual session of 2014

| <i>Member State</i>              | <i>Currency</i>       | <i>Pledge to core resources<br/>(in thousands)</i> | <i>Year/period</i> |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Andorra                          | Euros                 | 50                                                 | 2014               |
| Armenia                          | United States dollars | 10                                                 | 2014-2017          |
| Australia                        | Australian dollars    | 16 200                                             | 2014-2015          |
| Austria                          | Euros                 | 250                                                | 2014               |
| Bahamas                          | United States dollars | 10                                                 | 2014-2015          |
| Bangladesh                       | United States dollars | 10.5                                               | 2014               |
| Belgium                          | Euros                 | 10 150                                             | 2014-2015          |
| Burkina Faso                     | United States dollars | 2                                                  | 2014-2015          |
| Chile                            | United States dollars | 100                                                | Annually           |
| Costa Rica                       | United States dollars | 10                                                 | 2014               |
| Denmark                          | United States dollars | 10 000                                             | 2014               |
| Dominican Republic               | United States dollars | 10                                                 | 2014-2015          |
| El Salvador                      | United States dollars | 1                                                  | 2014               |
| Estonia                          | Euros                 | 120                                                | 2014-2015          |
| Fiji                             | Fiji dollars          | 10                                                 | 2014               |
| Finland                          | United States dollars | 27 200                                             | 2014               |
| France                           | Euros                 | 400                                                | 2014               |
| Georgia                          | United States dollars | 10                                                 | 2014               |
| Grenada                          | United States dollars | 1                                                  | 2014               |
| Iceland                          | United States dollars | 681                                                | 2014               |
| India                            | United States dollars | 2 000                                              | 2014-2015          |
| Ireland                          | Euros                 | 1 500                                              | 2014               |
| Italy                            | Euros                 | 1 000                                              | 2014               |
| Japan                            | United States dollars | 4 336                                              | 2014               |
| Kuwait                           | United States dollars | 200                                                | 2014-2017          |
| Lao People's Democratic Republic | United States dollars | 1                                                  | 2014               |
| Liechtenstein                    | United States dollars | 78                                                 | 2014               |
| Luxembourg                       | Euros                 | 1 390                                              | 2014               |
| Maldives                         | United States dollars | 4                                                  | 2014-2017          |
| Netherlands                      | United States dollars | 5 200                                              | 2014               |
| Norway                           | United States dollars | 15 900                                             | 2014               |
| Papua New Guinea                 | United States dollars | 5                                                  | 2014               |
| Republic of Korea                | United States dollars | 4 700                                              | 2014               |
| Romania                          | United States dollars | 15                                                 | 2014               |
| Suriname                         | United States dollars | 6                                                  | 2014               |
| Sweden                           | United States dollars | 11 000                                             | 2014               |

| <i>Member State</i>                                  | <i>Currency</i>       | <i>Pledge to core resources<br/>(in thousands)</i> | <i>Year/period</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Switzerland                                          | United States dollars | 15 500                                             | 2014               |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | Pound sterling        | 25 000                                             | 2014-2015          |
| United Arab Emirates                                 | United States dollars | 5 000                                              | 2014-2016          |
| Uruguay                                              | United States dollars | 3                                                  | 2014               |
| Viet Nam                                             | United States dollars | 21                                                 | 2014-2016          |

*Note:* In addition to the Member States listed above, Paraguay, Poland, Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa also made pledges to core resources, the details of which are to be confirmed.

#### **Pledges to non-core resources**

| <i>Member State</i> | <i>Currency</i>       | <i>Pledge<br/>(in thousands)</i> | <i>Year/period</i> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Belgium             | Euros                 | 3 000                            | 2014-2016          |
| Denmark             | United States dollars | 10 000                           | 2014               |
| Estonia             | Euros                 | 30                               | 2015               |
| Japan               | United States dollars | 5 855                            | 2014               |
| Luxembourg          | United States dollars | 280                              | 2013-2016          |
| Netherlands         | United States dollars | 400                              | 2014               |
| Sweden              | United States dollars | 21                               | 2014               |
| Switzerland         | United States dollars | 650                              | 2014-2016          |

#### **Pledges to the Fund for Gender Equality**

| <i>Member State</i> | <i>Currency</i>       | <i>Pledge<br/>(in thousands)</i> | <i>Year/period</i> |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Japan               | United States dollars | 1 005                            | 2014               |
| Liechtenstein       | United States dollars | 11                               | 2014               |
| Switzerland         | United States dollars | 9 900                            | 2014-2022          |

#### **Pledges to the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women**

| <i>Member State</i>                                  | <i>Currency</i>       | <i>Pledge<br/>(in thousands)</i> | <i>Year/period</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Netherlands                                          | United States dollars | 2 600                            | 2014               |
| Switzerland                                          | United States dollars | 1 600                            | 2015-2016          |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | Pound sterling        | 4 250                            | 2014               |